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AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

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EDUCATION



Lisa Sheehan (far left), coordinator of AHS' Career Center, meets with juniors Kayla Crean (left) and Taylor Budreau, and several staff of WMAS-FM 94.7 as the students wrap up their career internship at the radio station. Talking with Sheehan and the students are (from left) Brett Provo, production director; David Langlois, account executive; and Drew Hastings, on-air personality. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Internships help Agawam High School students find a pathway to career success

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Many young adults don't get any hands-on experience in their future career fields until college. Juniors and seniors at Agawam High School, however, are receiving valuable, real-world career skills even before receiving

their high school diplomas.

The school's career internship program matches students with local businesses to help them become more knowledgeable about careers that appeal to students. They spend up to a full school year "working" in their career fields, gaining first-hand experience and learning skills needed for those careers.

"They gain such valuable knowledge about a career field since they're actually working in that career before even entering college," said Lisa Sheehan, a business teacher at AHS who serves as coordinator of the high school's Career Center. "Their experiences help them to see how academic studies relate to careers."

The process leading to an internship first requires students to take a career exploration class. It provides a foundation for a successful school-to-career transition after high school, said Sheehan. "One of the things students do is complete self-assessments to analyze their interests and skills. Additional research

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ADOG

Dog park shrinks to fit lower budget

First phase, this spring, will now build less than half of planned 5-acre project

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Groundbreaking for the new Agawam Dog Park located adjacent to Shea Park will be delayed until at least the spring, a member of the Agawam Dog Owners Group says.

Deborah Sanchez, president

of ADOG, said bids for the dog park came in about \$100,000 over the project budget for the first two acres of the land designated by the town for the park.

"We had a budget of about \$270,000," said Sanchez. "Unfortunately, the bids came in way over that."

Parks and Recreation Direc-

tor Christopher Sparks has gone back to work with the designer on the project, Peter Wells from the Berkshire Design Group, to modify the plans and pare down the project so it can stay within the budget.

Sparks said last week he was planning to meet with Wells to finalize the revisions to the plan

so the project can go back out to bid.

"We are hopeful we can get this out to bid and do the groundbreaking this spring," said Sparks. Sanchez says the town of Agawam has committed about five acres of land to the new dog park, but plans were only made

PARK | page 5

ROADWORK

Feeding Hills Center fix slated for 2017

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Regardless of what happens with Route 57, Feeding Hills Center will finally get a much-needed facelift, Mayor Richard Cohen said last week — in 2017.

The crossroad of Westfield, Southwick and Springfield streets is currently served by routes 57 and 187. A long-proposed extension of the Route 57 expressway would bypass Feeding Hills Center, which backs up under the vol-

ume of commuter traffic between Springfield and the Hilltowns.

Cohen confirmed that an intersection redesign process is underway after the town received a \$500,000 grant, and does not depend on expressway work.

"This is an intersection that needs some work so it can handle the traffic and be safer," said Cohen.

For many years, the intersection has been gateway for motorists to go in four major directions. North Westfield Street leads to

Westfield. Springfield Street takes motorists further into Agawam to such destinations as Town Hall, the high school and West Springfield. Southwick Street leads to Southwick, and South Westfield Street leads to the expressway portion of Route 57, which connects to Interstate 91 and Springfield.

All that traffic has started to deteriorate the intersection. There are also no left-turn signals available to motorists coming from the east and west, making it very dif-

ROADWORK | page 5



Pedestrians, two state routes and busy Springfield Street come together Tuesday morning in Feeding Hills Center. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

New look, new focus for your local paper

To our valued readers and advertisers:

The next two weeks mark the debut of a more modern, sleek and easier-to-read visual look for the Agawam Advertiser News. As a way to share this good news, all residents in Agawam and Feeding Hills will receive the Jan. 22 and 29 editions for free.

As many subscribers and regular newsstand customers already know, we brought on board a new veteran editor, Michael Ballway, three months ago to partner with our longstanding local news correspondents Christopher Faille, Mike Lydick and Greg Scibelli, photographer Kimberly Hatch, office manager Teri Machia and advertising executive John Baskin. All of our staff lives in or directly around Agawam. Recently, we were pleased to also welcome back longtime Agawam columnists Jay Berger and Walt Willard.

We also are rolling out an entirely new website found at www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com. Online offerings will include complete newspaper archives, photo slideshows, social media links, easy submission buttons, editorial and advertising contact information and community organization portals.

Our whole team is working hard to deliver the local news and features that make the Advertiser News your indispensable guide to what's going on in town. We've added more local news, features and photography content and don't plan to rest on our laurels. Your suggestions as to how we can do a better job are always welcome.

Turley Publications is a small, family-owned company with a deep commitment to our readers and advertisers. We want to meet, and if possible, exceed your expectations. We are excited about our plans for 2015 and hope you'll join us.

Sincerely,

Patrick Turley
Publisher
Turley Publications Inc.
Palmer, Mass.



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Councilors discuss possible rule changes

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

A workshop to review the Agawam City Council rules did not go on exactly as planned last Thursday night, though two city councilors did make it to the meeting to discuss some protocol issues with the way city council meetings are run.

Councilor James Cichetti is the chair of the Legislative Subcommittee and called for the meeting, which he made a council workshop so all councilors can participate.

Cichetti was joined by Councilor George Bitzas. The other three councilors on the subcommittee had other commitments and were unable to attend the workshop.

Cichetti said the rules review is something that needs to happen so language in the council rules is consistent and practices that are currently in place can be made official.

He explained the council meetings are run by a tiered series of rules. The first is the traditional Robert's Rules of Order, which are a universal set of rules created to run meetings of all kinds. Those rules are superseded by the

council's rules. Both sets of rules are superseded by the town charter.

Cichetti says the town charter does not come in to play as often, but there are a few inconsistencies in Robert's Rules and the council rules.

Cichetti pointed out there is no council rule that disallows the council president from stepping away from the chair to make comments and opinions about an agenda item. However, Robert's Rules dictates anytime the council president wants to speak on a topic, he must yield the gavel until the agenda item is voted or tabled.

"We don't have a problem with the council president speaking back and forth on an issue," said Cichetti. "But we want it spelled out in our council rules so it is spelled out."

Cichetti and Bitzas both agreed there should be rules set on agenda items and the backup information that comes with them.

"This is an issue with the whole council," said Cichetti. "We want to make sure backup info is provided with all resolutions before it can get voted on."

Cichetti and Bitzas clashed a bit on the

idea of term limits for council president and vice president.

Cichetti suggested the council might want to entertain a term limit for how long a councilor can be president. The council has had the same president for the past four years.

"I just wanted to put the option out there," said Cichetti.

Bitzas said the council has the option of selecting its president each time it reorganizes — currently every two years, immediately following the November election — and did not think a term limit was necessary. He did agree with Cichetti's idea of having the reorganization every year instead of every two years.

Cichetti also said it was time for the council to drop its three budget subcommittees.

"We do not use them anymore and started holding workshops with the town departments," said Cichetti.

Cichetti said he will be calling another meeting of the Legislative Subcommittee in the near future. He and Bitzas will be asking the rest of the committee their opinions on the council rule changes.

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New cell tower moves to final approval stage

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The Planning Board has given conditional approval to Verizon Wireless Communications to place a wireless communications tower at 459 Mill St.

The final step in a long, nearly six-month long process for Verizon Wireless will be to take the plan in front of the Board of Appeals. The public hearing date has not been set for the public hearing.

Because of the length of the process so far, the board voted to approve a site plan contingent on Verizon Wireless architect Doug Roberts making minor changes to the plans presented based on comments made by the Department of Public Works, the Engineering Department, and address some public safety concerns with the Agawam Fire Department.

"I don't want to hold this project up and am prepared to vote on this with conditions," said Planning Board Chairman Mark Pale-

ologopoulos.

Planning Board member Nicholas Pandolfi moved to approve the site plan provided it means all the conditions from the town departments. The vote was unanimous in favor, 4-0.

There were no questions from residents at the public hearing held last Thursday night at the Agawam Public Library.

Residents have been very quiet for most of the process, which has included a public hearing last September in front of the Planning Board for a zone change, and then a public hearing with the Agawam City Council for zone change approval.

Roberts told the Planning Board the tower will be 105 feet high, at least 20 to 30 feet shorter than other towers in town. They presented photos graphs of what the tower would look like from the road. The tower will be several hundred feet from the road. It will be accessed through a private gravel way off Mill Street.

Feedback from the DPW requested the

site be properly marked with signage to keep the public out as well as marking off the various electrical hazards that would be located on the site.

"We would not be accessing the tower often after the construction," said Fryman. "It will take about 10 to 12 weeks to construct and then a technician will do maintenance about once a month."

The request for a new cellular tower was made to help accommodate a huge coverage gap in the center of Agawam.

To make their case for the zone change, Verizon Wireless Engineer Jay Latorre showed maps of current coverage provided by five area cell towers. The maps showed a gap in quality cell coverage throughout the central part of town.

"The part of the map that shows a lack of quality coverage is the area that is not up to our standard of quality 4G LTE coverage," said Latorre. "If we are approved for this tower, we would be able to significantly fill that coverage gap."

Latorre said more towers are being installed in many areas to keep up with the increased demand of wireless communications use.

"People are using their cell phones, they are using wireless tablets that have data connections, and they are getting rid of their landlines," said Latorre. "We have more towers to keep up with that kind of usage."

The applicants were asked if there was a section of the tower that could be utilized by public safety officials if they are experiencing gaps in coverage.

"We would work with any public safety official to put up antennas that would help with coverage gaps in town," said Verizon Wireless' Attorney Ellen Fryman. "They would be able to use our towers rent-free."

There were also be sections of the proposed tower that other communications companies can rent and co-locate their antennas.

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On our front page, every week, "AGAWAM" is the biggest and boldest word of all. We want to catch the eye of our neighbors and let them know: the Agawam Advertiser News is all about your town. The Agawam Advertiser News cares about your town. The Agawam Advertiser News is part of your town.

This week and next week, as part of our graphical redesign, we're mailing the newspaper to every home in Agawam and Feeding Hills. For those of you who are new to town, and those who have gotten out of the habit of picking up the local newspaper every week, we hope these two editions catch your eye and inspire you to invite us into your home on a regular basis. For our loyal subscribers, we hope the changes we've made in the newspaper improve your reading experience.

To truly deliver to you the best possible newspaper, however, we'll need your help. A great community newspaper is a reflection of its community. The Agawam Advertiser News is nothing without Agawam, and that means we're nothing without you.

Our neighbors and readers are the driving force behind many of the stories, briefs and photographs you see in our pages. Your letters to the editor, your snapshots from around town, your family news and story tips are what makes this newspaper. If you've got a question about how town government works, or a gripe about some local issue, tell us and we'll try to get to the bottom of it. Next time you see a bit of good news in town — a charity benefit, a school or church event, a milestone in a relative's life — give us a call or snap a photo and send it in. We're happy to showcase the great things in Agawam that make this such a welcoming town.

Agawam, we are your community newspaper.

We want to hear from you! Editor Michael Ballway can be reached at mballway@turley.com or 413-786-7747, ext. 102.

THE VOICE OF BUSINESS

Chamber plans exciting events for 2015

By Bonnie Massoia

The West of the River Chamber is looking forward to an exciting and event-filled 2015. We will keep you informed with our monthly updates and feel free to contact us to become involved.

The WRC held the eighth grade Career Day on Dec. 4 at Agawam Junior High School. Career Day is an opportunity for eighth graders to choose from a diverse group of speakers who discuss their career choices. The students should take away the idea that it is never too early to start thinking about career paths. Dave Ratner from Dave's Pet Food and Soda City was the keynote speaker and kickoff speeches were given by Mayor Richard Cohen and School Superintendent William Sapelli.



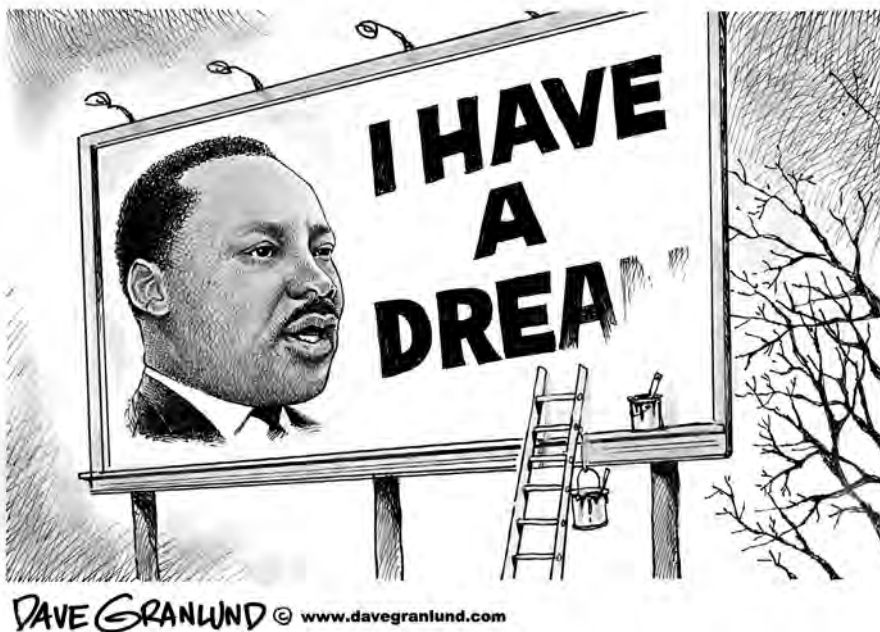
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The WRC would like to thank the following speakers for volunteering time and making this event a success: John Gibbons, U.S. marshal; Alika Hope, actress; Paul Pinsonnault, banking; Dave Ratner, entrepreneur; David Long, video production; Tina Lankowski, cosmetologist; Tanya Moriarty, attorney; Jay Cameron, engineer; Chief Alan Sirois, firefighter; Judith Kelliher, journalist; Coleen Dunn, web design; Gina Humphries, pharmacist; Ashley Veilleux, nurse; Stuart Ritter, physical therapy; Chief Eric Gillis, Agawam Police; John Walters, chef; Luke Pawlak, sports team; Gerald Cutting, veterinarian; Chuck Kelly, floral; Glenn Ford, aerospace engineer; Robin Jensen, child care; Steve Maiolo, automotive; Christopher Sanchez, state trooper/CSI; Jennifer McGrath, communications.

There are links online for West Springfield, Agawam and Lower Pioneer Valley Education Collaborative students to download scholarship applications.

There will also be a luncheon on Jan. 29 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Storowtown Tavern to introduce the "Machine Technology Training Center." This center is

CHAMBER | page 7



Letter to the Editor

Clarification needed on housing article

I am writing to clarify some points in the article "Housing Panel Still Waiting for Members" in the Agawam Advertiser News of Jan. 15, 2015.

First, most importantly, the headline is no longer accurate. After I spoke with the reporter, Councilor Cichetti called to let me know he was the appointee, but I did not receive the message until Sunday, so could not convey the information before the article was published.

The Agawam Housing Committee is a town committee such as the Community Preservation Act Committee, the Beautification Committee, the Energy Commission, etc. It was created to consider housing needs in Agawam with particular attention to housing opportunities that are affordable to households of all income levels and abilities, and to make recommendations to the mayor and city council on steps the town can take to create new housing options and maintain existing affordable housing. The greatest advantage of the Agawam Housing Committee is that it will help Agawam to

control our own housing destiny.

A housing study will assess all housing in town, not just affordable housing, to determine what exists and what is needed. A housing plan will be developed with extensive public input when the study has been completed.

Chapter 40B of the Massachusetts General Laws, the state's affordable housing law, applies to all cities and towns in the commonwealth, and is mandated, not accepted. Agawam has benefited from the law in the creation of housing for veterans by Soldier On, which is in progress.

Affordable or community housing, also known as workforce housing, is defined as long-term affordability for people earning up to 80 percent of the area median income and is meant for moderate- or middle-income as well as low-income families and individuals. The FY2014 Income Limits for Agawam were \$44,750 for an individual, \$51,150 for a family of two, \$63,900 for a family of four, increasing incrementally up to \$84,350 for a family of eight. Income Limits for FY2015 are due out in February.

The Agawam Housing Authority provides housing for both low- and moderate-income families and individuals. Information about

LETTER | page 7

YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

Agawam's 1940 cheerleaders

In the fall of 2013, Cindy (Morrissette) Goodyear '82 gave me a little prom booklet that once belonged to Rose (Velata) Paro '44. The Jan. 30, 2014, column told the story about Rosie and Ernest dancing that night in 1943 and about their life together. When Cindy gave me the prom booklet, she said there were a few other things I might want but she wasn't sure where they were, so she wrote down my name and phone number. Most of the time in these situations you never get a phone call, but last week Cindy called and said she had a few things for me. How special that is to remember a near-stranger a year and a half later.

Back home I opened Cindy's envelope to find Rosie's high school diploma, a 1944 Schem and a picture cut out from an October 1940 Springfield newspaper. Pictured were six Agawam Brownies, called "cheer leaders" by the paper, using two words. They were named left to right and the picture was proof that AHS once had boys as cheerleaders. Surely this would be a great story 75 years later. What a loss it would have been if Cindy had thrown the picture in the trash.

The first step to write the story would be to meet with Eddie Neilson '41. Back in October of 1940, Eddie would have been at the football field, either in the game or warming up, since he was the 1940 quarterback. Eddie

loved the picture and quickly explained that Wally Gulliver married the cheerleader next to him in the picture and he was Wally's best man. Wally and Eddie both grew up together and in October of 1940 were living with the Cordes family at the home, which is now 85 Monroe St. Both boys were foster children of the Cordes. Most people would look for sympathy because they were not raised by their parents, but not Eddie. He feels blessed that he was able to grow up in Agawam and to have played football for Harm Smith. I feel blessed that I was able to meet

Eddie and to hear the stories he has told me, stories that will live on for many years.

Wally Gulliver's parents died when he was very young. At AHS, Wally was loved by his classmates who voted him "Best All Around Boy" and "Class Choice for Brother." (Surely he got Eddie's votes.) After AHS he joined the Navy, working on ships transporting food to England. One ship he was on was sunk, but Wally survived. After the war, Wally married Lorraine Ardizoni, a cheerleader who was second in the voting for "Cutest Girl" in the 1942 Schem. Eddie convinced Wally to join him at the Armour Company in Springfield. That job led to a career for Wally and he worked for Armour until he was 62. Wally and "Honey" Ardizoni had three chil-



Walt Willard
Guest Columnist



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail aan@turley.com.



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HOMETOWN | page 7

One perfect score on 'news quiz'

Agawam Advertiser News reader Linda Hayes scored the only perfect score on the newspaper's 2014 news quiz, correctly answering all 20 questions printed in the Jan. 1 edition.

Shelley Reed and John Kida each missed just one question. The next best result was posted by Diane

Mallory, who correctly answered 17 out of the 20 questions.

The quiz, which the Advertiser News hopes to make an annual feature, asked readers about names and events covered in the newspaper in 2014. Completed entries were due Jan. 10.

CHAMBER ■ from page 6

scheduled to open in September 2015 at the Brush Hill campus of the LPV Educational Collaborative. The program will be geared toward preparing high school students as well as adults for entry-level employment in a variety of manufacturing settings.

On Feb. 25, from 7 to 9 a.m., we will be holding our annual Legislative Breakfast at Storowtown Tavern's Carriage House, West Springfield. The following legislators have been invited to attend and field audience questions: Mayor Sullivan, West Springfield; Mayor Cohen, Agawam; state Representatives Nicholas Boldyga and Michael Finn, and state Senators Don Humason and James Welch. This is a popular and informative event. If you have any questions or issues that you would like discussed, please submit them by email to the WRC. Tickets to this event are \$25 member and \$30 non-member.

In the last issue which listed the Board of Directors, Dee

Emery-Ferrero from Western Mass Women Magazine was missed.

The WRC is a member-driven organization which relies on our members and the community to continue our success. Please contact us if you would like more information about becoming a member. We encourage our members and the community to let us know if you have ideas for certain topics and business news for upcoming articles. Please email bmassoia@canaryblomstrom.com with ideas.

Contact information is WRC, P.O. Box 48, W. Springfield, MA 01090-0048. Our phone number is 413-426-3880 and website is westoftheriverchamber.com. You can also email us at info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

Bonnie Massoia is a member of the board of directors at the West of the River Chamber of Commerce, which represents businesses in Agawam and West Springfield.

HOMETOWN ■ from page 6

dren and lived in many places during his career. Eddie said that Wally had a great ability with numbers and Armour did their best to utilize Wally.

Lorraine Ardizoni grew up at 28 River St. in North Agawam. She was a busy girl at AHS, playing field hockey, basketball and softball. She was on many committees and helped write the class history for the '42 Sachem. She was only a cheerleader during her junior year. She now lives in South Carolina and is possibly the oldest surviving cheerleader from AHS. On the phone, Lorraine said she just turned 90 and remarked, "Who could forget Miss Belyea?"

Two other cheerleaders married each other, Madeline "Mickey" Ehrhardt and George Guidi. Madeline was voted "Cutest Girl" and "Class Choice for Sister." George was voted "Best Boy Singer," "Best Boy Dancer" and "Best Actor." Guess George was good up on the stage. He and Wally ended up with the two cutest girls. George got his degree from Norwich University and had a career as an electronics engineer. He and Madeline had three daughters. George was a World

War II Army Air Force vet and an ordained minister in the Universal Church.

Louise "Chuddy" Mandirol played field hockey, basketball and softball all four years at AHS. She, "Honey" and Ruth Perry wrote the class history for their yearbook. She married Ben Germano, a popular race car driver at Riverside. They had two boys, Ray and Ralph. Chuddy's niece, Eleanor McCarthy, lives on James Street and has three children who went to AHS. Karen was salutatorian of the '89s. Kate '92 was a cheerleader and David '93 is a lawyer down in Walpole.

Ruth Phelps married and her son Todd LaFleur graduated from AHS in 1967. He lives on Cape Cod in East Sandwich. Thanks to Ellen (Beauchane) Janik '73 for helping to compile the information in this column.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.

LETTER ■ from page 6

the percentage of affordable housing in each community is maintained by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development's Subsidized Housing Inventory, not by the state Housing Authorities.

Although housing has long been of importance to me, the Agawam Housing Committee is not my committee, and many resources exist in the state such as the Massachusetts Housing Partnership, the Citizens Housing and Planning Association, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, and the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development to help the committee with its work.

The delay in starting the Housing Committee has been due to several factors. I was selected at the May 13, 2014, meeting of the Agawam Housing Authority while the mayoral appointees were confirmed at the Oct. 20, 2014, council

meeting, and as noted, the Planning Board member was selected at their Nov. 6, 2014, meeting. I misstated the wording of the ordinance when I said the representatives of the Housing Authority, Planning Board, and City Council needed to be confirmed by the City Council, as they are designated by their respective groups, while the mayoral appointments are confirmed, so am delighted that the Agawam Housing Committee is now fully formed and ready to move forward.

The committee will meet as soon as a date, time and space can be determined. As with all town committees, meetings will be open to the public, with an agenda posted in advance.

Corinne M. Wingard
Agawam

Are You Old News?



Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to mballway@turley.com. Please include your first and last name.



Last week's photo: Correctly identifying Tammy Watson were Geraldine Schilling-Nordal, Caroline Bassett, Donna Kennedy, Janice Truelove and Lou Scherpa.

Early deadlines this week

With next week's edition also being mailed to every home in town, the Agawam Advertiser News asks readers and advertisers to be aware of early deadlines this week.

Press releases, submitted photos and community news must be received by 8 a.m. Monday morning, Jan. 26, to be considered for inclusion in the Jan. 29 edition of the Advertiser News. News may be sent to Teri Machia at aan@turley.com. Machia can be reached at 413-786-7747, ext. 100. Editor Michael Ballway can be reached at 413-786-7747, ext. 102.

For businesses wishing to advertise in the Jan. 29 edition, which will reach every home in Agawam and Feeding Hills, the deadline to contact sales representative John Baskin is the end of the business day Friday, Jan. 23. Baskin can be reached at jbaskin@turley.com or 413-786-7747, ext. 101.

Emergency hotline available

Mayor Richard Cohen and the Agawam Emergency Management office advise residents that a telephone hotline has been established for town and weather emergencies. The number is 413-726-9750.

The Agawam Emergency Management Office will air messages on this designated number to advise residents of emergency conditions, shelter information and other emergencies that may exist. No messages can be left on this line, although it can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Information can also be found on the town's web page at www.agawam.ma.us/eco, [facebook.com/agawamem](https://www.facebook.com/agawamem) and twitter @agawamem.



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Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

College Acceptances: Chris Basile: UMass Amherst, University of Vermont, University of Hartford; Mark Connaughton: American International College; John Colwell: Wheelock College, Curry College; Patrick Deane: Saint Anselm College; Jacqueline Donahue: Assumption College, Elms College, UMass Amherst, Worcester State; Alyssa Eggleston: Fisher College; Anthony Frigo: Quinnipiac University, Roger Williams University; Tara Graham: University of New Hampshire, Salem State University, University of New Haven; Samantha Henry: UMass Amherst; Kaitlin Humiston: University of Hartford; Chloe Leclerc: Fitchburg State University, Bay Path University; Kaitlyn Martin: Hofstra University; Marissa Miller: Westfield State University; Makenna Moen: James River Leadership Campus; Kyla McGurn: Hofstra University; Melissa Montagna: Quinnipiac University; Dan Robie: Western New England University; Phillip Woods: Bridgewater State University.

Seniors: Please let Mrs. Tirone in the counseling office know what college/university you have

been accepted into.

CTEC (Lower Pioneer Valley Career and Technical Education Center): Students and parents are invited to attend an Open House on Feb. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. Visit www.lpvctec.org for a listing of programs available.

FAFSA Day (College Goal Sunday): A volunteer driven program providing free assistance to students and families seeking to complete the FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid on either Jan. 25 at 1 p.m. at American International College or Feb. 22 at 1 p.m. at Holyoke Community College. For more information, visit www.fafsaday.org.

SAT Prep Course: Princeton Review will host an SAT Prep Course at AHS beginning Jan. 28. Students must pre-register and pay at princetonreview.com or 1-800-2-REVIEW, ext. 1065. Postcards have been mailed home to all 10th- and 11th-graders.

Scholarships: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Bank to give 30 scholarships

Berkshire Bank has announced it will honor 30 high school seniors in Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut and Vermont through its annual Scholarship Awards Program. The program will award \$45,000 in total to students who have demonstrated community service through their volunteer efforts, have been successful academically and have a financial need. Additionally, students must attend a high school that is located in a community with a Berkshire Bank office or in a community primarily served by a Berkshire Bank office.

Through the program, 30 \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who will be attending a two- or four-year college in the fall. Applications are evaluated based on their record of volunteerism in the community, academic standing and financial need. Applicants must have a mini-

mum GPA of a 3.0 and a family household income under \$75,000 to be eligible to apply. Students must apply online by Wednesday, March 25. An independent team of bank employee volunteers will review all applications and select this year's winners.

Scholarships will be awarded in the regions where Berkshire Bank branches are located, with 14 available in Massachusetts, 11 available in New York, two in Connecticut, and three in Vermont. Students can apply online though the bank's website at www.berkshirebank.com/scholarships. To be considered, all applications must be submitted online by March 25 at 4 p.m. Additional information about this year's program can be obtained on the bank's website or by contacting Berkshire Bank Foundation at scholarshipinfo@berkshirebank.com.

SCHOOL AGENDA

Regular School Committee Meeting

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main St.
Tuesday, Jan. 27 - 7 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Moment of silence
3. Roll call of attendance
4. Regular meeting - 7 p.m.
5. Citizen's Speak Time
6. Highlights on Education:
 - a. Reading Recovery Presentation
 7. Superintendent's notes
 8. Student Advisory Committee representative update
 9. Unfinished business: None
 10. Business meeting

- a. Routine Matters
 - 1) Approval of minutes
 - 2) Calendar/Correspondence
- b. Warrants/Transfers
- c. Reports:
 - 1). Scheduled reports:
 - Personnel update (paper report)
 - Financial update - R. Clickstein
 - Instructional Technology update - M. Feeley
 - 2). Subcommittee updates
 11. New Business:
 - a. SCR-15-02, Adoption of the 2015 - 2016 School Calendar
 - b. SCR-15-03, Approval to name the new AHS athletic and track facility after Louis Conte
 - c. SCR-15-04, Approval of 2015-2016 AHS Program of Studies
 12. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
 13. Adjournment

Fitness First to host blood drive

Fitness First Health & Fitness Center, 60 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills, will host a blood drive sponsored by Mercy Medical Center, Wednesday, Feb. 4, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A driver's license with photo or state identification with photo is required to donate blood. All donors should eat at least two to three hours prior to donating, weigh at least 110 pounds and must be 18 years or older.

To make an appointment, call 413-786-1460.

Register now for lacrosse, parent-child dances

Christopher Sparks, director of Parks and Recreation Department for the town of Agawam, has announced that the registration deadline for youth lacrosse, the Father-Daughter Dance and the Mother-Son Dance is Friday, Jan. 23.

For more information, call 413-821-0513 or 413-821-0514.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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STCC to provide free tax assistance preparation

SPRINGFIELD — Starting Jan. 27, Springfield Technical Community College will offer a free income tax filing assistance program for low-to-moderate income taxpayers through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program in partnership with Single Stop, USA. Single Stop is a national organization that works with community colleges to help connect students to state and federal financial resources and local community services. The aim is to help students overcome economic barriers, continue with their education and move toward economic mobility.

The VITA program will assist STCC students and surrounding community residents with preparing and filing their tax returns. Volunteers from the community, including STCC students, are IRS-trained and certified to help filers prepare and submit their returns electronically. Volunteers are members of the Massachusetts Tax Assistance Coalition and can also prepare taxes for Connecticut and other surrounding states.

“Through VITA, filers will get their refund just as fast as they would if they went to a commercial tax preparation company,” said Richart Keller, STCC’s VITA site coordinator.

“It can often cost as much as \$200 to \$300 to have an outside company prepare a family’s taxes, but our program is free, so there’s significant savings.”

This is the second year STCC will offer the VITA program.

“One of the advantages of students having their taxes filed here is that we can screen them for additional financial resources and benefits through our Single Stop program,” said Roosevelt Charles, STCC director of access and student success. “They can also make appointments for assistance with their Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms.”

Those who would like to take advantage of the program can schedule appointments online at www.stcc.edu/cas/vita/ or by calling 413-755-4215. Walk-ins are welcome, though appointments are preferred, especially during peak filing periods. The VITA office will be open Tuesdays through Fridays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and is located in Building 15 (Garvey Hall South), Room 105, on State Street at Armory Square in Springfield.

Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 64 EMS calls and the following emergency response calls for the week from Jan. 13 to Jan. 19.

On Jan. 13 at 1:13 p.m., the department responded to Raymond Circle for public service.

On Jan. 14 at 4:33 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for lockout.

On Jan. 14 at 6:09 p.m., the department responded to Autumn Street for lockout.

On Jan. 15 at 9:14 p.m., the department responded to Editha Avenue for smoke detector activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Jan. 16 at 7:30 a.m., the department responded to Autumn Street for good intent call, other.

On Jan. 16 at 8:28 p.m., the department responded to Cardinal Drive for public service assistance, other.

On Jan. 17 at 7:35 a.m., the department responded to Bowles Road for unintentional transmission of alarm, other.

On Jan. 17 at 2:50 p.m., the department responded to Senator Avenue for gas leak, natural gas or LPG.

On Jan. 17 at 2:52 p.m., the department responded to River Road for water, ice-related rescue, other.

On Jan. 17 at 8:26 p.m., the department responded

to South Westfield Street for water or steam leak.

On Jan. 18 at 11:05 a.m., the department responded to Mansion Woods Drive or public service assistance, other.

On Jan. 18 at 12:17 p.m., the department responded to Royal Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On Jan. 18 at 2:05 p.m., the department responded to Carr Avenue for electrical wiring/equipment problem, other.

On Jan. 18 at 2:40 p.m., the department responded to Coronet Circle for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Jan. 18 at 6:08 p.m., the department responded to Parkedge Drive for water problem, other.

On Jan. 19 at 5:27 a.m., the department responded to Paul Revere Drive for public service assistance, other.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 111 calls for service from Jan. 13 to Jan. 15. The department made 5 arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Thursday, Jan. 15

Scott D. Papillon, 45, of Ludlow, was arrested on a warrant.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Contradicted
7. The Donald’s Marla
13. Mediterranean sandstorm
14. Shoulder adornment
16. Earth crust’s 5th element
17. Rainbow prize
19. NCIS star’s initials
20. Mischa __, violinist
22. Constitution Hall org.
23. More dried-up
25. First on moon
26. Braid
28. 11% of Guinea population
29. Sea eagle
30. Scottish variant of “to”
31. A border for a picture
33. Belonging to a thing
34. On top
36. Automobile hood (Brit.)
38. Skewered Thai dish

CLUES DOWN

40. Clamors
41. Eggs cooked until just set
43. Flat
44. 13th Hebrew letter
45. Short poking stroke
47. Japanese classical theater
48. 007’s creator
51. Romanian Mures river city
53. Music term for silence
55. A crane
56. Ringworm
58. Romanian money
59. True frog
60. Integrated circuit
61. “Highway Patrol’s” Crawford
64. Point midway between S and E
65. On a whim
67. Protagonist
69. Quantity with only magnitude
70. Oversights

CLUES DOWN

1. One who operates a dial
2. Trauma center
3. Prickly pear pads
4. Fashion superstar
5. Shock treatment
6. Mindless drawing
7. AKA migraine
8. Military mailbox
9. Buddies
10. Heavy tranquilizers (slang)
11. Raised railroad track
12. School session
13. Picture
15. Stabs
18. Supervises flying
21. Early American militiaman
24. Downfall
26. Cooking vessel
27. Check
30. In a way, manipulated
32. Sacred book of

CLUES DOWN

Judaism
35. Chum
37. Negating word
38. Relating to the body
39. W. hemisphere continents
42. Make lacework
43. Witty remark
46. More hairless
47. Relating to a nerve
49. Originates
50. Consumer advocate Ralph
52. Actress Winger
54. Center for Excellence in Education (abbr.)
55. Japanese brews
57. Fleishy seed covering
59. Canadian law enforcers
62. So. Am. wood sorrel
63. Actress Lupino
66. Personal computer
68. Do over prefix

SEE ANSWER ON PAGE 10

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Seniors



Nancy Edwards, seated right, visits with her youngest sister, Florence “Scottie” Allen, of Bethesda, Md., at a reception marking Edwards’ 90th birthday held at the Captain Charles Leonard House. Standing are her grandson, Jim Edwards, and his wife, Beth, of San Antonio, Texas. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Longtime Agawam resident Nancy Edwards is surrounded by family and friends who celebrated her 90th birthday.

Longtime resident celebrates 90th birthday

Nancy Anne MacBride Edwards, a resident of Agawam since 1952, celebrated her 90th birthday with family and friends at a reception held at the Captain Charles Leonard House.

The mid-afternoon event was hosted by her daughter, Susan Edwards Provost, and her husband, Paul, of Tupper Lake, N.Y.; her son, Alan Edwards, and his wife, Debbie, of Richardson, Texas, and a grandson, Jim Edwards and his wife, Beth, of

San Antonio, Texas.

The Rev. George Thomson, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Agawam, began a short program by pointing out that Mrs. Edwards continues to be an active member of the church and then offering a prayer of thanksgiving. Edwards and her late husband, Stan, joined the church nearly 60 years ago.

Agawam Town Clerk Richard Theroux, a former Woodside Drive neighbor, congratulated Edwards on reaching her milestone birthday, presented her with a certificate from the town, and expressed his gratitude for growing up in a neighborhood where neighbors knew, and cared for, each other.

After Theroux’s presentation, family members and friends presented a “hand-held” slide show of 14 poster-size photos from Edwards’ life and sang “Happy Birthday” as she cut a large cake.

Nephew Jim Riling, of Easton, Conn., read from recollections submitted by family and friends, including Harriet Gilman of Westfield.

“You could give Nancy an old sock with hole in it and she could create a program about it,” wrote Gilman. “She was born an activities director. Ask the [First Baptist Church] group that goes to Maine each year or her sorority or Heritage Hall.”

Edwards was born in Bridgeport, Conn., on Jan. 8, 1925; she was the fourth of Jim and Mildred MacBride’s six children. Also in attendance were her oldest sister, Muriel Riling, of Southbury, Conn.; her youngest sister, Florence “Scottie” Allen of Bethesda, Md.; her youngest brother, Jim MacBride, and his wife, Grace, of Branford, Conn, as well as two nieces and a nephew.

“Everything was very lovely,” said Edwards after the party. “I thank all who helped make my birthday celebration a very special time.”

Agawam Senior Center

Senior Center’s weekly calendar of events

Monday, Jan. 26: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo, Educational Seminar (“Securing Social Security”); 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, Jan. 27: 9 a.m., Exercise, Knitting Class, Sewing Class; 10 a.m., Chair Exercise, Computer Tech Club Meets; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., Chorus; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.

Wednesday, Jan. 28: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:45 p.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 1 Meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, Jan. 29: 8:30 a.m., Chair Exercise; 9 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch, Open Art Class; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6:30

p.m., Pitch, Evening Line Dancing.

Friday, Jan. 30: 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6 p.m., Art Workshop (dining room).

Agawam Senior Center lunch menu

Monday, Jan. 26: Country broccoli soup, ham and cheese on whole-wheat, lettuce and tomato, bananas.

Tuesday, Jan. 27: Hamburg and gravy over mashed potatoes, green beans, apricots.

Wednesday, Jan. 28: Chicken gratin, baby potatoes, mixed vegetables, pudding.

Thursday, Jan. 29: Roast pork, roasted potatoes and carrots, applesauce.

Friday, Jan. 30: Stuffed shells primavera, garden salad, baked good.

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The Agawam Senior Center dining area was filled with a multitude of game faces and smiles on Friday, Jan. 16.



Hands are dealt for another game of canasta.

Wild cards

The Agawam Senior Center had a good turnout last week for pitch and canasta. Weekly card games are part of the town Council on Aging's programs available at 954 Main St. Other programs are designed to promote seniors' education, health, recreation and welfare. For a calendar of events, pick up the Agawam Advertiser News each week or visit www.agawam.ma.us/content/2862/4101/4106.aspx.




A fan of cards is laid out to determine who deals.



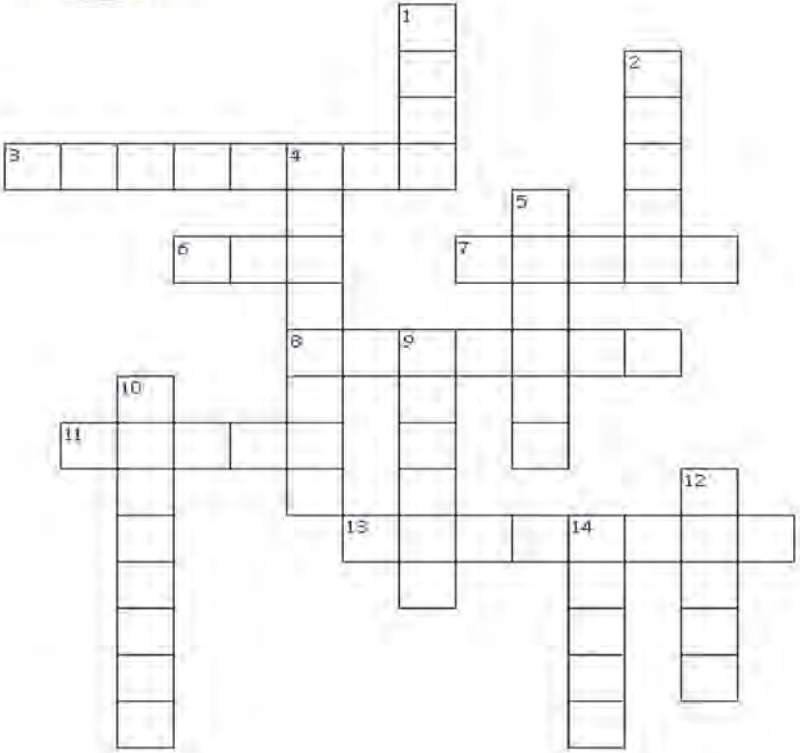
Ed Nowak tosses in his jack as he plays a game with, from left, Paul Bernard, Steven Pevzner and Norma Noyes.



Seniors play canasta, which originated in Uruguay in 1939 and continues to be played to this day, nearly 80 years later. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY HATCH



Best Health Club in Western Mass.



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Across

3. What you get when you bring in this completed crossword

6. First name of Gold's Gym founder

7. Healthy way to prepare a potato

8. Sport or activity of riding a bicycle

11. Your body has 206 of these

13. A safe place to leave your child while you work out

Down

1. The godfather of fitness 'Jack'

2. One a day keeps the doctor away

4. The key to maintaining mobility

5. These can be good or bad

9. An exercise that gets your heart pumping

10. The best health club in Western Mass.

12. Dance and Aerobic exercise routines performed to popular music

14. A lazy potato

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NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



Rita Egnor of Feeding Hills was all smiles during a cutthroat game of pitch.



Norma Noyes looks over her canasta hand.

Simons graduates from basic training

Air Force Airman Mark D. Simons graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Simons is the son of Deborah and Mark Simons, of Agawam, brother of Brady M. Walsh, of West Springfield, and grandson of Geneva Cullins, of Agawam. He is a 2012 graduate of Agawam High School.

Program brings reading to life through theater

Agawam Family & Community Program and the Agawam Public Library will present "Reading Alive!" with the Enchanted Circle Theater, Saturday, Jan. 24, from 1 to 2 p.m., at the library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

The public is invited to a fun, interactive literacy workshop designed to engage children and family audiences in dramatic readings and expressive arts activities.

Two actors from Enchanted Circle Theater will make words jump off the page and stories come to life through dramatic readings and theater games.

Founded in 1976, Enchanted Circle Theater is a non-profit, educational theater company that engages, enhances and inspires, learning through the arts. They are the regional leader in the field of arts integration, using theater art as a dynamic teaching tool on the stage, in the classroom and in the community.

Registration is not required.

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote “free” events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Saturday, Jan. 24

AGAWAM FAMILY & COMMUNITY PROGRAM and the Agawam Public Library will present “Reading Alive!” with the Enchanted Circle Theater, from 1 to 2 p.m. at the library. The public is invited to a fun, interactive literacy workshop designed to engage children and family audiences in dramatic readings and expressive arts activities. Registration is not required.

Thursday, Jan. 29

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present “The Evolution of Baystate Medical 1870-Present,” at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

THE TUESDAY MORNING MUSIC CONCERTS at Trinity United Methodist Church in Springfield will feature Diane Lipari, soprano, Kimberly Figueroa on flute and Miguel Campinho on piano, at 10:30 a.m. Free refreshments. For more information, contact Yolanda Martin, 25 Valentine St., Springfield or John Karalekas, TMMC president, Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield 01138.

Wednesday, Feb. 4

FITNESS FIRST HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, will host a blood drive sponsored by

Mercy Medical Center from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A driver’s license with photo or state identification with photo is required to donate blood. All donors should eat at least two to three hours prior to donating, weigh at least 110 pounds and must be 18 years or older. To make an appointment, call (413) 786-1460.

Thursday, Feb. 5

THE FRIENDS OF THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY will hold their annual meeting at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of the library. This meeting is open to the public. Election of officers will be held. Anyone interested in joining the organization may pay dues at the beginning of the meeting to become eligible to vote.

Friday, Feb. 6

THE ACC APPLAUSE SERIES will focus on the fashions of the Regency Period, and Jane Austen’s literature in particular at 7 p.m. when Haddam Stage Company Artistic Director Kandie Carle will present “Fashion in Fiction: Clothing Speaks Volumes in Jane Austen’s Novels” at the Agawam Public Library.

Wednesday, Feb. 11

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam, will hold an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

ONGOING

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers “Crochet Club” every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

THE LADIES GLEE CLUB AND MEN’S CHOIR at the Springfield Turnverein are

back to work. Practice is held every Wednesday with the ladies beginning at 7 p.m. followed by the men at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. There is space available for anyone interested in joining.

A BLOOD CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Agawam Senior Center conference room. A light dinner is served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit www.springfieldmed.com, or email survivorshipprogram@gmail.com.

A BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 6 to 7:15 p.m. at office of Maryann Paleologopoulos LICSW, Inc., 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam (at the rotary). Refreshments served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit www.springfieldmed.com, or email survivorshipprogram@gmail.com.

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30-11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 786-7111 or email jbrownacc@verizon.net.

A CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP meets the third Thursday of each month, 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the office of Maryann Paleologopoulos LICSW, Inc., 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam (at the rotary). Re-

Happy 85th, Carmella



Carmella Lepore, of Feeding Hills, celebrated her 85th birthday Jan. 11. Originally from Springfield, she has two daughters, Linda Lepore and Patty Lepore; a grandson, Thomas Lepore; a great-grandchild and a great-great grandchild. SUBMITTED PHOTO

freshments served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit www.springfieldmed.com, or email survivorshipprogram@gmail.com.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at (888) 613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

Friends of the library to hold annual meeting

The Friends of the Agawam Public Library will hold their annual meeting Thursday, Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library. This meeting is open to the public. The election of officers will be held at this meeting. All members who have paid their 2015 dues will be eligible to vote. Anyone interested in joining the Friends organization may pay dues at the beginning of the meeting to become eligible to vote.

The Friends of the Agawam Public Library is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization whose mission is to support the town library by providing fundraisers, workshops and educational activities, and volunteer services.

For more information, write to Friends of the Agawam Public Library, P.O. Box 478, Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0478. The Friends group is not connected to any local, state or federal government agency.

Legal Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD05P1955G11**
**In the interests of:
Wilhelmina Kniec
Of: Agawam, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
TO EXPAND THE
POWERS OF
A GUARDIAN**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Heritage Hall North** of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 01/30/2015. This day is NOT

a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Anne M Geoffrion, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 02, 2015

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate

1/22/15

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF AGAWAM
PLANNING BOARD**
The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 6:30 PM** in the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Agawam City Council on a proposed zoning amendment to the Town’s “Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District” by adding Section 180-95A. A copy of the proposal can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

**BY ORDER OF:
Mark R. Paleologopoulos,**
Chairman
Agawam Planning Board
1/22, 1/29/15

**AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
LEGAL AD**
The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, January 29, 2015 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of SBA Towers

II LLC for property located on Main Street.

By Order of **Henry A. Kozloski**, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
1/22/15

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD14P2557GD**
**In the interests of
Adrianna Anne Sicard
Of Feeding Hills, MA
Minor
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor**

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
1. Hearing Date/Time:
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 12/26/2014 by **Candace A. Bouley** of Feeding Hills, MA will be held 02/02/2015 01:15 p.m. Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located Probate and Family Court, 50 State Street, 4th Floor Springfield, MA 01105
2. Response to Petition:
You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:
File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor’s best interests.
Date: December 26, 2014

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate

1/22/15

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legal notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Business

Chamber to hold Legislative Breakfast

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The West of the River Chamber of Commerce has scheduled its Legislative Breakfast, an event which brings members and non-members together for a morning of breakfast and legislative updates. The event will take place, Wednesday, Feb. 25, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Storowton Tavern Carriage House in West Springfield.

Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with local business people over breakfast, and later enjoy an informational session given by a panel of legislators and city leaders, including state Sen. Donald

Humason, state Sen. James Welch, state Rep. Michael Finn, Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen and West Springfield Mayor Edward Sullivan. Political consultant Anthony Cignoli will emcee the event and also offer economic updates.

Sponsors for this event are Health New England, OMG, Insurance Center of New England, Ormsby Insurance and Spherion.

The event is \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. For more information, call the West of the River Chamber of Commerce office at 413-426-3880.

Top producing agents



Ted Cassell, president of Park Square Realty and manager of the Park Square Feeding Hills office, has announced that the top-producing agents for the fourth quarter of 2014 for Agawam and Feeding



Hills were, from left, Kim Landry, Diane Kapinos and Dee Cyr. Park Square Realty is a locally owned company with 47 agents and two locations in Feeding Hills and Westfield. Submitted photos



Enroll now for fuel assistance

If you need help with your utility bills this winter, the time to act is now. The application period for Massachusetts residents seeking financial assistance under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for the 2014-15 heating season continues through April 30. Any resident who may need assistance during the upcoming winter under this program must apply during this time period to qualify. Homeowners and renters, including those with heat included in their rent can apply.

Columbia Gas residential customers receiving public assistance benefits may also

qualify for the discounted Low Income Gas Rate, the Residential Arrearage Management Program, which is designed to eliminate past due balances, and no-cost energy efficiency improvements. For customers who may be just over the income guidelines for fuel assistance, the Salvation Army's Good Neighbor Energy Fund may provide financial assistance.

For more information on bill payment options, energy assistance and other information, go to www.ColumbiaGasMA.com or call Columbia Gas of Massachusetts Customer Contact Center at 800-882-5454.

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Website: www.vfauto.com
Email address: service@vfauto.com
Owners Name: Frank Palange

Local Business Profile

How long have you been in business?
Founded in August of 1988 (27 years in August).

How did you begin your career?
We opened V&F Auto in 1988 with the intention of selling automotive accessories, performing oil changes, and detailing customers' vehicles. As the business grew, there was a need to expand our services in order to survive. We slowly ventured into doing brakes and other routine services. Today, V&F Auto, Inc. is a full automotive service center (Auto Service) with a CARQUEST Auto Parts store (Auto Parts), and used car lot (Auto Sales).

Describe your product or service:
V&F Auto Service is an approved AAA auto service shop with ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) Certified Technicians working on both domestic and import vehicles of all makes and models performing cost-effective repairs and maintenance alternatives.
V&F Auto Parts is your local CARQUEST Auto Parts store – the premier supplier of replacement

auto parts, accessories, supplies and equipment for virtually all makes of automobiles, light and heavy-duty trucks, off-road equipment, buses, recreational vehicles and agricultural equipment.

V&F Auto Sales provides our customers with top quality inventory and specializes in locating the car or truck of your choice.

What do you stress most to your staff?
V&F is a family operation, and our main focus has always been "Do unto others as you would want done unto you." That guides everything we do.

What makes you stand out from the competition?
We are in the people business and are here to serve our customers with caring and professional service. Being able to recognize and meet that reality is a portion of what sets V&F aside from our competition. In addition, we offer a 3 Year / 36,000 Mile warranty on most repairs.

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SPORTS

HOCKEY

Two late third tallies help Agawam past pesky Ludlow



By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

It was not pretty, but the Agawam hockey team was able to get the job done last Thursday night in a victory over Ludlow, 4-3. The Lions would actually have a 3-1 lead heading into the final 10:00 of the game, but a weakness for Agawam turned into a strength when Joe Mercadante scored a power play goal to snap the Brownies out of their funk. Later on in the third period, Niko Passerini tied the score 3-3 with 3:23 left. It only took another two minutes for the Brownies to get back on top when reliable Seamus Curran moved from defense to the offense and combined with John Colwell to get the eventual game-winner. Colwell fed Curran on the run in the neutral zone. Curran would then move all the way to the goal, overpowering the defense to get a shot on goal with 1:22 left. Ludlow would remove their goalie from that point, but the Agawam defense held up and took away the close win.

Players from Agawam and Ludlow vie for control of the puck behind the Ludlow goal. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

BROWNIES | page 17

WRESTLING

Brownies bouncing back from injuries

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – Health can mean everything in high school wrestling, and the Agawam squad is starting to get healthy at the right time. Agawam struggled through their first month of the regular season. “Our injuries hurt us early in the season,” said coach Armando Ramos last week. Ramos spent the first month of the regular season having to go to junior varsity wrestlers to make some adjustments in weight classes, but the Brownies were able to push through the first half of the regular season with a good dual-meet record. Since the holidays, however, Agawam has started to get their health back, getting a huge boost at the heavier weights with the Karl-Morin twins back in the lineup. Both had suffered injuries during the football season and both missed at least a month of the regular season. Ramos was able to get Fred Karl-Morin back in action at the Phil Tomkiel Holiday Tournament on Dec. 30. He was able to get the hang of things very quickly, and won several matches in his first week back, picking up his 100th career win.

INJURIES | page18

ROUNDUP

Agawam takes down Northampton

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam wrestling team picked up another win and are continue to go on an upward trend as they defeated Northampton in a dual meet on the road last Wednesday night 27-15. The Brownies have reached a 10-10 dual meet record and are starting to gain momentum as they move toward the Western Massachusetts Division I Tournament, which will be held on Feb. 14 at Central High School. Agawam had a big meet scheduled for Wednesday night against Ludlow and this Wednesday night, Jan. 28, the Brownies are scheduled to host Longmeadow in their Senior Night meet beginning at 7 p.m.

Lady Pacers topple Brownies
For the second time this season, the Brownies were upended in a

tough matchup against Chicopee, 53-39 at Chicopee. The Brownies have been struggling to score points, especially early in the game. Chicopee has had similar struggles this season, and the two teams had a spirited battle at Agawam High School in December, one that was decided by the three-point shooting prowess of Chicopee's Ayanna Meadows. In last Friday's matchup, the Brownies could not get over a second quarter deficit in which Chicopee scored 16 points and took a seven-point lead, 24-17, at halftime. Agawam did come out strong in the third quarter, but were quieted in the final frame as Chicopee built a bigger lead. Shannon Denault had one of her best games of the season. She was the 3-point shooter for the Pacers,

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BASKETBALL

Brownies rally to stop Ludlow

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam boys basketball team was finally able to come through late in the game as they outscored the Ludlow Lions 25-8 in the final quarter to score a 64-54 victory on Monday night at Clifford P. Kibbe Gymnasium. Agawam was outscored 13-4 in third quarter, and trailed by 11 before their huge fourth quarter comeback. The teams traded teams throughout the night, and had an exciting first half where the two teams were back and forth. Meesha Ohradka and Sean Moore had key performances, and coach Dave Federico's use of two different lineups helped keep the Lions off balance and keep the Brownies fresh throughout the game.



Agawam's James Macey (34) holds the ball away from a defender as he looks for someone to pass to. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY SUSAN SWIFT

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Sports

RALLY ■ from page 16

Agawam and Ludlow got together for the second time this season in Berry League action. Agawam had their way with the Lions on Dec. 23 7-0. This time, the Lions played the Brownies much tougher.

In the first two periods of the game, Agawam had a clear advantage with possession, but Ludlow had the clear advantage when it came to taking advantage of their opportunities.

The Lions had just six shots in the first two periods, but connected on two of them to take a 2-1 lead at the end of the second. Agawam scored their first goal on a power play to take a 1-0 lead.

Ludlow would tie the score while attacking with 9:42 remaining in the second period. The Brownies would have some great chances to get more shots on goal, leading 15-4 with about three minutes remaining.

Ludlow's Tyler Diotalevi would feed Austin Blair. Blair made a redirect shot to help the Lions take a 2-1 lead with 36.9 seconds left.

Ludlow then added what they thought would be an insurance goal early in the third before Agawam mounted their three-goal comeback.

Cam Rivest, Passerini, Mercadante, and Curran had the goals for the Brownies. Blair, Nick Chrisholm, and Brad Garete tallied for Ludlow.

Alex Will made 17 saves in the loss while Connor McAnanama picked up the win for the Brownies with 13 saves.

Agawam raised their record to 7-2-2. They have yet to be defeated in the Berry League with a 6-0-2 record. Both of Agawam's losses this season have come against teams from outside the region.

The Brownies will host Chicopee Thursday at Olympia Ice Center at 7 p.m. They face East Longmeadow on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

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ROUNDUP ■ from page 16

grabbing four treys and scoring 20 points. Emily Dowd came through with 15 points, and McKenna Sousa came through with three treys for nine points.



Agawam was led by Christie Mirski, who continues to score consistently, with 17 points. She had two treys. Meghan D'Amours also played well, scoring 11 points. Becca Uschmann had six points in the defeat.

Agawam is 1-7 and has the tough task of playing at Northampton Thursday at 7 p.m. They face Westfield on Monday at 7 p.m.

Agawam swept by
Northampton, Amherst

The girls indoor track team had a tough meet last Friday afternoon when they were swept by Northampton 62.5-31.5 and also

Three times a charm



AGAWAM - Congratulations to Ruby Chenevert, of Agawam, who has accomplished first overall for the third year in a row in the Whip City Gymnastics competition.

The New Year's Invitational competition is held annually at Westfield State College.

Chenevert has been a member of Tim Daggett's Xcel Gymnastics program for many years. After last weekend's competition held in January of 2015 she has now successfully claimed the Overall title for the past three years in the Gold, Silver and currently the Platinum level.

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS
SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Fishing swap meet set for March 8

AGAWAM - A fishing swap meet will be held at the Polish American Club, 139 Southwick St., from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 8.

Buy, sell, trade new and used fishing and hunting gear, but no guns allowed.

The event is open to the public.

Polish Club concessions will be open with breakfast/lunch food and drink.

Free parking. There will be a \$2 donation accepted at the door. Children 12 and under free.

Raffle prizes to be awarded.

Table space and both space available.

Don't miss your opportunity to make some money selling your used fishing gear!

If you would like to sell your items or boat please contact Dave Dussault at 413-427-0846.

lost narrowly to Amherst Regional 47-43.

The losses dropped the Brownies below the .500 mark to 2-4 for the season.

The boys indoor track team was able to pick up a split in the tri-meet matchup. They were run over by Northampton 73-23, but had enough good finishes to get a 49-36 win over Amherst.

It was the first win since Dec. 12 for Agawam, and the Brownie boys are also 2-4 for the season.

Agawam has a quad meet coming up on Friday. They will face Chicopee Comp, Chicopee High, and Holyoke at 3:45 p.m. at Smith College's indoor track facility in Northampton.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Friday, Jan. 23

Indoor Track (at Smith College in Northampton)
Agawam vs. Chicopee Comp and Holyoke 3:45 p.m.
Swimming
Monson at Agawam 4 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 24

Hockey
Agawam at East Longmeadow (at Olympia) 2 p.m.
Wrestling
Agawam at Central 7 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 25

No games scheduled.

Monday, Jan. 26

Girls Basketball
Agawam at Westfield 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 27

Boys Basketball
Agawam at Sabis 7 p.m.
Skiing
Agawam at PVIAC Meet (at Berkshire East in Charlemont) 5 p.m.
Swimming
South Hadley at Agawam 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 28

Wrestling
Longmeadow at Agawam 7 p.m.

2014-2015 WINTER STANDINGS

Boys Basketball

Suburban

Longmeadow	4-0	8-1
Chicopee Comp	3-0	4-4
South Hadley	2-2	4-4
Ludlow	2-2	3-6
Sabis	2-2	3-6
Agawam	1-2	2-7
Minnechaug	1-3	2-7
Belchertown	0-4	1-6

Girls Basketball

Valley Wheel

Minnechaug	1-0	5-4
Ludlow	1-0	5-5
Westfield	0-0	4-5
East Longmeadow	0-1	3-7
Agawam	0-1	1-7

Hockey

Berry

Westfield	7-0-1	7-2-1
Agawam	6-0-2	7-2-2
Longmeadow	3-1-2	4-2-3
East Longmeadow	3-3-0	4-7-0
Ludlow	3-5-1	3-10-1
Minnechaug	2-5-0	5-6-0
West Springfield	2-6-0	3-8-0
South Hadley	0-5-0	0-6-1

Boys Indoor Track

Pioneer South

Holyoke	1-0	3-1
Chicopee Comp	0-0	1-2
Agawam	0-0	1-2
Chicopee	0-0	0-3
Westfield	0-1	2-2

Girls Indoor Track

Pioneer South

Westfield	1-0	2-2
Agawam	0-0	1-2
Chicopee	0-0	0-3
Chicopee Comp	0-0	0-3
Holyoke	0-1	0-4

Monahan places second for Lady Owls

NEW LONDON, Conn. - Westfield State women's track and field sophomore Ashley Monahan, an Agawam High School graduate, took second in the 600 meters in a time of 1 minute, 46.07 seconds at the Coast Guard Winter Invitational indoor track and field meet on Saturday, Jan. 17.

Boys Swimming - Patriot

Agawam	0-0	3-2
South Hadley	0-0	3-2
Central	0-0	2-2
Chicopee Comp	0-0	2-3
Monson	0-0	1-2
Palmer	0-0	1-3
Easthampton	0-0	0-4
Holyoke Catholic	0-0	0-4

Girls Swimming - Patriot

South Hadley	0-0	4-1
Chicopee Comp	0-0	3-2
Agawam	0-0	2-3
Central	0-0	1-3
Palmer	0-0	1-3
Easthampton	0-0	0-3
Monson	0-0	0-3
Holyoke Catholic	0-0	0-4

Wrestling

Ludlow	1-0	1-1
Westfield	0-0	1-0
Agawam	0-0	6-4
Northampton	0-0	0-1
Longmeadow	0-1	0-1

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Sports



Agawam's Joe Moccio goes up for a shot in the paint. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY SUSAN SWIFT



Agawam's Shawn Monahan (22) goes up for a jumper in the paint.

RALLY ■ from page 16

But near the end of the game, Ohdraka and Moore both came through with some key shots, as well as some contributions off the bench from James Macey and Sean Monahan.

Ludlow got things started with a basket by Dan Rodrigues. But the Brownies countered with the first Ohradka's four treys in the game to give the Brownies a 3-2 lead.

Ludlow would score again, and then jump out in front for a few minutes with some great shooting from several different places on the court.

Joe Moccio would get Agawam back out on top with a basket to make it 10-9, but Brian Pacheco countered with a layup and then nailed a free throw on a foul to make it 12-10 Ludlow.

Macey picked up the tying basket with a

hook shot. Then followed a Ludlow turnover and sank a second hook shot to give the Brownies another lead.

The two teams continued to battle for the lead, with Ohradka hitting the second trey of his night to give the Brownies 17-16 lead. Agawam would get another point on a free throw by Myles Scott, but Ludlow scored at the end of the first quarter for a tie game 18-18.

Defense was the name of the game for the next 3:00, as neither team was able to score after a wild first quarter. With about 5:00 left in the half, Cam Cabana finally broke the stalemate with a 3-pointer, making it 21-18.

The lead was not with Agawam for long, as the Lions tied the score 21-21, then took a one-point lead. Scott scored on another free throw to tie the score 22-22, and the two teams remained close for the remainder of the half.

Agawam got the last basket, taking a 35-33 halftime lead.

The Lions defense was on fire early in the second half, completely shutting the Brownies down early on. But Agawam found it in the fourth to pick up their second win of the season.

Ohradka had 21 points in the win. Moore had 10 points. Both Moccio and Monahan each had six points.

For Ludlow, Kevin Simonds led the Lions with 13 points. Pacheco had 11 points and Ray Emberley scored 10 points. Ludlow did not have a trey in the game.

Agawam is now 3-7 this season, but has a 2-2 record in their league, keeping the Brownies in the hunt for the tournament with their young squad.

INJURIES ■ from page 16

reer victory in a quad-meet at Chicopee High School two weeks ago.

Jim Karl-Morin then returned to the lineup. He wrestled last week, and helped Agawam pick up an impressive performance at the Chicopee Duals on Jan. 10. Agawam beat Minnechaug and Comp before suffering a narrow loss against Winchester, a state runner-up as a team in Division 2. Agawam also went head-to-head with Putnam, a very powerful team and loss in the last match.

Having the team at full strength has brought the Brownies back into a position of being the same team that has sent between seven and 10 wrestlers to the state tournament during the past three years.

Agawam does have a perfect 2-0 Valley Wheel records, and must face Ludlow and Longmeadow to complete their league schedule. Agawam always wants to pick up a league title, but their focus is on getting prepared for the Western Massachusetts Division 1 Tournament.

Agawam placed second at the big tournament last year and has a host of wrestlers that are getting ready to contend for a sectional title. Many of them are at the upper weights this year.

145-pound Anthony Basile is looking for a return trip to the state, all-state, and hopefully the New England Tournament. Fred and Jim Karl-Morin will be contenders at 195 and 220 pounds respectively. Nick Hope is a contender for the heavyweight championship, and Nick Blais will hope to make some noise at 170 pounds.

The Brownies still have a lot more wrestling to, and will be using every match now to prepare for that tournament.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

Obituaries

Marjorie J. Sherman 1931 – 2015



AGAWAM — Marjorie Jean Sherman, nee Louth, departed this life on Monday, Jan. 12, 2015. She was the third child of the late Sarah Jane (Abbott) Louth and Herbert Louth. Her sister Dorothy (Louth) Hall and her brother Geoffrey also predeceased her, as

did her beloved husband David M. Sherman who passed away just this past Oct. 31, 2014. Born in

Springfield, Marjorie graduated from the former Technical High School, Westfield State Teachers College and Springfield College. She was a skilled artist and spent 39 years educating in Agawam schools, where she had a tremendous impact on her many students. Marjorie's story is incomplete without including David, the love of her life. They were married in 1961 at Trinity United Methodist Church. They moved to Agawam in 1963. David had a long career at Loomis School (now Loomis-Chaffee) in Windsor, Conn., first as manager of the bookstore where he mentored the students who worked there. He rose to the position of business manager and retired in 1996. They shared a love of

Great Danes, giving home and affection to six over the years. They both leave behind many friends to whom they were very dear, and David's niece, Doris Sherman Helms Korona. The funeral was at the Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, 745 Cooper St. She was laid to rest at Hillcrest Park Cemetery in Springfield. A reception was held in the Guild Room of the South Congregational Church, 45 Maple St., Springfield. Memorial remembrances in honor of Marjorie may be made to the Agawam Senior Center Activities Program or your favorite charity. Memorial remembrances in honor of David may be made to the Agawam Public Library.

DEATH NOTICES

- Manna, Orlando**
Died Jan. 16, 2015
Funeral Jan. 21, 2015
Agawam Curran-Jones
Funeral Home
- Mercadante, James V.**
Died Jan. 13, 2015
Funeral Jan. 20, 2015
Agawam Funeral Home
- Sherman, Marjorie J. (Louth)**
Died Jan. 12, 2015
Funeral Jan. 20, 2015
Agawam Curran-Jones
Funeral Home

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Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

INTERNSHIP ■ from page 1

helps them select a career pathway.”

Emphasis is also placed on important job-search activities, such as writing resumes, interviewing skills, composing career-related letters, and compiling career portfolios to use in securing employment. Students may also participate in a job-shadow program that involves a day with a professional in a career that interests a student.

Matching students to careers

After completing the course, Sheehan reaches out to the community to place students in specific career fields with local businesses, organizations, and government agencies that are willing to participate in the internship program.

There are currently 12 students in the internship program in career areas that include education, chiropractic services, radio communication and law enforcement. Sheehan said it sometimes can be a challenge to place a student, depending on the career.

“That’s why I want to increase awareness among local companies. It’s such a great opportunity for students and companies,” she explained. “Our students could be a company’s future employees. Gaining knowledge and experience with an internship is a win-win for students and companies.”

The medical and health field, and law enforcement, are two areas that are particularly difficult because of privacy and liability issues, according to Sheehan.

“Even students at the college level aren’t allowed to do ride-alongs with police,” she said. “One-day job shadows work because they can sit with an officer at the station, but beyond that they won’t allow it. I’ve tried placing students outside of Agawam, also, but those departments are only interested in college-level internships.”

Real work, real responsibilities

Students in internships work with mentors who understand particular career fields. They help students become involved in daily activities so that by the end of the second week of the internships, students usually are responsible for actual projects.

“Mentors thoroughly enjoy assisting stu-

dents in learning about a career that they themselves enjoy so much,” said Sheehan.

Students can leave the high school in the early afternoon, either one or two periods before the end of school, to work at their internships.

“They have to go five times a week if they’re leaving school, but generally students work out the hours with their mentors,” said Sheehan.

Internships usually last a half year, but may be extended for a full year. Students must complete a total of 40 hours in their internships to receive a class credit, but can go beyond that. “Some students even stay until after they have graduated because the internship is so rewarding,” said Sheehan.

Planning a career in law enforcement, senior Amanda Smith works as intern with Agawam DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) officer. She called internships “extremely beneficial” to students: “They offer us great insight into careers we may want to pursue in college.”

Smith said many students go to college undecided or end up changing their major halfway because they’re unsure about their careers.

“If more students had the opportunity in high school to figure out what careers are best for them — and could actually work in that career as an intern — it would save lots of money and time in college,” she said.

Juniors Kayla Crean and Taylor Budreau want careers in the music industry. They were recently interns at a local radio station. Crean said the experience provided lots of knowledge about their career field.

“Internships are a perfect opportunity to get your foot in the door for your specific career field,” Crean said. “The internship program is beyond amazing,” added Budreau, who praised Sheehan and her program for helping them create resumes and finding the radio station internship.

Local businesses or organizations interested in learning more about participating in the Career Center’s internship program can contact Sheehan at 413-786-0861 or Lsheehan@agawampublicschools.org.



Lisa Sheehan, a business teacher at AHS, coordinates a career internship program that places student interns at local businesses. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Making ‘great connections’ for dream career

Senior Emily Murphy, 17

Career goal: Elementary school teacher
College: Plans to major in elementary education at Worcester State University
Notable quote: “Teaching is the right career choice for me. I love the work and the kids.”

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Emily Murphy’s dream is to teach in an elementary school, and she receiving some practical, hands-on experience in that profession as an intern in an Agawam elementary school classroom.

Murphy leaves high school each afternoon to take an active role in a fourth grade class at Granger Elementary School. Under the guidance of her mentors, teacher Carolyn DiClementi and teaching assistant Joann Prout, Murphy has undertaken a number of classroom responsibilities.

“I make copies, grade papers, create bulletin boards, and — most important — help students comprehend what they are learning by assisting them with their worksheets,” she said.

Her internship provided Murphy with “real-world experience” by showing her what a teacher does during a normal school day.

“Now I have a better understanding of what elementary teachers do, what his or her actual role is in the community, and why they’re so passionate about their work,” she added. “I’ve learned how much I actually do want to teach and how students can have a

huge impact on my life.”

Murphy said she chose teaching for her internship because she will major in elementary education in college.

“I’ve always wanted to be a teacher,” she said. “I love working with kids ranging from first to fourth grade. I want to be in charge of my own classroom and develop a special connection with children by helping them.”

The internship has exceeded Murphy’s expectations, giving her experience and a perspective that will be valuable when she enters college. She said she has made “great connections” with the teachers and students at Granger.

“Mrs. DiClementi and Mrs. Prout have given me great advice and have shown me almost everything I need to know. They have taken me under their wing and supported me throughout my internship,” said Murphy.

Murphy — who extended her unpaid internship through the end of the school year — usually spends about two hours every school day at Granger. She’s also had the opportunity to go to the school for a full day.

“The best part about my internship is seeing the kids every day. I extended the internship for the whole year because I want to continue to learn everything I can,” Murphy added. “Teaching is the right career choice for me. I love the work and the kids. I’m looking forward to going to college to learn more.”



Emily Murphy gets a hug from a fourth grader at Granger Elementary School. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Career plans include college and cops

Senior Amanda Smith, 18

Career goal: Working in law enforcement
College: Plans to major in criminal justice, at either University of New Haven, Florida Atlantic University or Bridgewater State University
Notable quote: “This internship has validated my decision to make law enforcement my career — no matter how tough or demanding it may be.”

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Amanda Smith has spent the past several months getting an up close and realistic glimpse into law enforcement, a career the AHS senior plans to pursue after college.

“Law enforcement is a very tough career, physically and mentally. Working day after day alongside Agawam DARE Officer Karen Langevin and her colleagues, I know this is the right career for me,” said Smith.

Personal intelligence tests she took as part of the career exploration class before beginning her internship helped pinpoint careers she would be good at or enjoy. Smith researched those careers, choosing law enforcement.

“I’ve always wanted to help people in any way, shape, or form that I can, so law enforcement is perfect for me,” said Smith, who also wants to pursue investigative police work because of a passion for solving puzzles and mysteries.

Smith now has a better grasp of law enforcement and its different career opportunities.

“There are so many possibilities — from the work Officer Langevin does to being a street patrol officer or an investigator. Exposure to the different careers has given me a better idea of what I could do.”



Amanda Smith, stands outside Agawam’s police headquarters on Springfield Street. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Smith has assisted in a variety of tasks related to the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program, such as organizing materials, compiling handouts, and preparing bulletin boards for elementary school students. She’s also taught classes at the middle school and junior high school, explaining her internship and her career plans.

Going directly into DARE classrooms, Smith gained more knowledge about the program and other law enforcement duties. In addition to her DARE work, she spent a day with a Massachusetts state trooper who specializes in accident reconstruction.

“I was surprised to learn how much information is recorded in a car crash — everything from impact points in a collision to the reaction damage on a car must be recorded with extreme detail,” said Smith.

Langevin and some Agawam detectives also gave Smith some college and career advice.

“I know TV shows about law enforcement aren’t real — they’re dramatized versions of what actually happens,” she said. “What I’ve experienced is a realistic view of law enforcement that has been very helpful to my career decision.”

The internship is exactly what Smith was looking for — so much so that she extended it for the remainder of the school year: “I love helping Officer Langevin teach DARE classes. I’ve learned so much from her about law enforcement.”

The internship is only about an hour each day, but Smith said she has engaged in some “really amazing tasks” that will likely be part of her future career. Smith can’t yet work in law enforcement, so her internship is the next best thing. “It’s a great opportunity for me. The internship has validated my decision to make law enforcement my career — no matter how tough or demanding it may be.”

Internship is music to their ears and careers

Juniors Taylor Budreau, 17, and Kayla Crean, 16

Career goals: working in music industry
College: Both plan to major in music business or management; Budreau wants to attend Berklee College of Music in Boston; Crean has yet to decide on a college
Budreau’s quote: “It was exciting to work with different people in a real company outside of school.”
Crean’s quote: “The internship helped me to definitely decide I want a career in music.”

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Taylor Budreau and Kayla Crean enjoy listening to music on the radio, but as interns at a local radio station, they learned that there can more to a radio station than just music.

Juniors who are planning careers in music, they received some real-world radio experience at WMAS-FM 94.7, a Springfield station that broadcasts from the Basketball Hall of Fame. The two friends wrote, edited and recorded commercials, went on sales calls with the sales team, and interacted with buyers of commercial airtime.

“It was exciting to work with different people in a real company outside of school. It really opened our eyes,” said Budreau.

They worked with all aspects of radio — even creating a commercial from start to finish after researching companies the sales team gave them. The sales team guided them in writing a proper commercial, known in the industry as a “spot,” and the production team guided them in the studio to edit it.

“You don’t realize what’s going on behind the scenes while listening to the radio in your car,” said Crean. “While people are on the air, others are producing commercials or selling commercial spots to companies. Many people work behind the scenes so everything airs perfectly for listeners.”

Budreau and Crean also put together a project at the radio station for Coats for Kids. They presented their project to AHS Principal Steve Lemanski, who allowed them to promote it at school. They used the radio station to further publicize the campaign.



AHS juniors Kayla Crean (left) and Taylor Budreau edit a radio commercial at the studios of WMAS-FM 94.7. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

“It ended up being very successful,” said Crean.

“We collected a ton of coats,” added Budreau.

They worked six hours a week during their half-year, unpaid internship.

“It was perfect — just enough time to learn about each department at the station, get enough knowledge, and remember what we learned,” said Budreau.

Crean said she gained valuable information about the music industry: “The internship helped me to definitely decide I want a career in music — not necessarily in the radio industry, but perhaps music business/management.”

She added that the guidance of Lisa Sheehan, who coordinates the internship program, and the school’s career exploration class helped to prepare them for working at the station.

“Ms. Sheehan also arranged for a job shadow day at the radio station prior to our internship,” Crean said. “We met people at the station and learned about their jobs. It helped us to understand what we would be doing and what it would be like.”

Budreau said every aspect of the radio station work was her favorite: “The internship was much more than we expected. It really was an unforgettable experience.”

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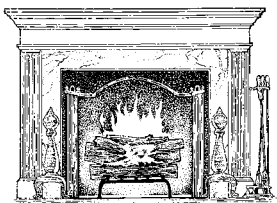
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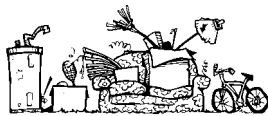


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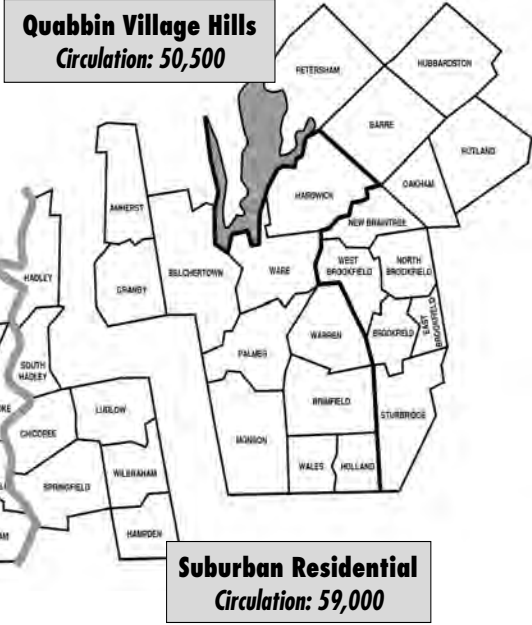
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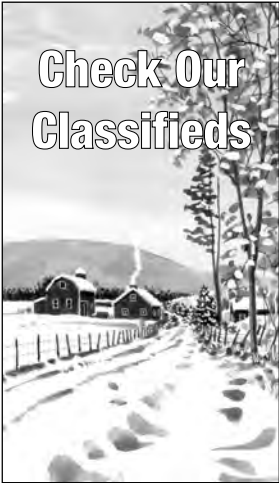
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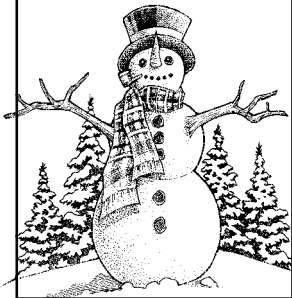
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Bluebonnet Banquet Facility – Minutes from downtown Northampton. Wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, Jack & Jill parties, shower and anniversary Parties and more. Up to 160 guests, full bar & dance floor. 30+ years experience. 324 King Street, Northampton, MA. Call Jim 413-584-3333 or email jasrgreco@aol.com. Banquet menus and more information at www.bluebonnetdiner.net.

Look Park Garden House – Gazebo, Pine Theater and Sanctuary for wedding receptions and ceremonies, meetings, banquets and events for up to 170 people. 300 North Main Street, Rt. 9, Florence, MA. 413-584-2220. www.lookpark.org.

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Storowton Tavern – Storowton Tavern & Carriage House is a landmark area facility located on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition. The operators of the facility, the Calvanese family, have over 45 years of hospitality experience. They offer beautifully landscaped grounds, terraced patios and an upscale banquet facility that can serve 400 guests. For more information please visit www.storowtontavern.com. 1305 Memorial Ave. West Springfield, MA 01089. 413.732.4188. info@storowton.com.

Villa Rose – 1428 Center Street, Ludlow. 413-547-6667. Banquet facilities for parties large and small up to 200 people. Showers, receptions, graduations and more. Catering available for up to 1,000 people.

Union Station – Northampton's Union Station was designed by American architect H. H. Richardson in 1886. This historic train depot has been extensively renovated to contain one of the most elegant and unique banquet facilities in all of New England. The Grand Ballroom at Union Station. www.unionstationbanquets.com.

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Atkins Farms Country Market – Atkins Flower Shop is managed by three full-time experienced floral designers to assist you in planning the wedding of your dreams. You can be assured of receiving the excellent service and quality products from the floral department that you have come to expect from Atkins. Their work is beautiful and expertly done and offered to you at prices that are surprisingly reasonable. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

Sixteen Acres Garden Center – The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center has been servicing Springfield for over 50 years. Our professional staff members aim to provide a service that is unique and tailored to suit individual needs. We provide a complete, high quality range at competitive prices. The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center offer flowers that are fresh daily and take great pride in our work. We have arrangements for all different occasions and for different budgets. For a professional and experienced service please don't hesitate to contact us at 413-783-5883. Located at 1359 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, MA. www.16acresgardencenter.com.

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Luminous Glow – Look and feel your best with our all new Contour d'or, the all new inch loss spray tan by Tibby Olivier, only available in all of New England at Luminous Glow. Call for an appointment 413-525-7500. Visit us online at luminousglow.net. 143E Shaker Road, E. Longmeadow, MA 01028.

Blush Salon & Spa – A big city boutique in quaint Feeding Hills, MA. Blush provides a wide variety of hair, skin, and makeup services. All your bridal needs in one location; on location services are available to accommodate you and your party. Every bride will consult with their personal makeup artist and stylist before the big day. Please inquire within for more information on customizable multiservice packages. Blush looks forward to being your personal beauty expert for any occasion! 1325 Springfield St., Suite 2, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, 413.789.0024, www.blushsalonspa413.com.

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Silverscape Designs – was founded by Denis Perlman over 30 years ago and is noted for its commitment to showcasing the work of the finest in American handcrafted jewelry & gifts. Silverscape also specializes in custom designs for that perfect piece of jewelry. Silverscape Designs is located at One King Street in Northampton, MA. www.silverscapedesigns.com.

Stevens Jewelers & Diamond Gallery – A family operated company with wholesale and retail operations. Buying gold, silver and diamonds, jewelry & watch repair, custom design & remounts. Personalized engraving, appraisals. Visit us at our NEW location 1501 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA. 413-731-9800.

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